

<i>Cantonment</i>	<i>Nature of Tax Head I-Rates and Taxes</i>	<i>1989-90 Rs. in lakhs</i>	<i>1990-91 Rs. in lakhs</i>
	(d) Tax on Trades and Professions	0.87	1.03
	(e) Water Rates/Tax	6.39	6.73
	(f) Cinema Show Tax	0.32	0.74

Note: Collection of Octroi was discontinued w.e.f. 1.8.1990 as per the instructions of the State Government.

3. There has been no major public grievances about health or sanitation. Routine complaints regarding these matters which have been made by residents from time to time have been attended to by the local authorities.

4. The Station Health Organisation of Allahabad Cantonment has made certain suggestions for provision of hygiene chemicals, equipments, dustbins, purchase of two new conservancy vehicles, conversion of group pan-type latrines into flush type latrines and manpower requirement. The Cantonment Board authorities have taken adequate steps to implement these suggestions except for the purchase of two new conservancy lorries which could not be done due to financial constraints. No suggestion about any specific case had been received from Station Health Organisation, Kanpur.

5. No serious lapses have been detected on the part of the concerned authorities in the two Cantonments to warrant any disciplinary action.

Idle Handlooms

3722. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDEWAL: Will the Minister of

TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the thousands of handlooms in several States have been lying idle for the past few months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have since taken any fresh measures to help the handloom weavers in the country to improve their economic condition; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). The recent hike in yarn prices which affected the marketability of handloom cloth, had caused temporary under-employment among the weavers resulting in reduction in their wages. However, there are no reports of large scale closure/idleness of handlooms.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In the wake of recent spurt in year prices, central Government covered a meeting of major representative bodies of spinning industry in the country to impress upon them the need to follow moderation

and maintain stability in prices of year. The spinning mill federations have agreed to supply hank year to pre-budget prices to the State Handloom Agencies and the National Handloom Development Corporation for onward supply to weavers. Chief Ministers of States have been requested to monitor the production of yarn by cooperative/State sector mills, and to hold regular State level reviews at the level of Secretary in-charge of textiles regarding supply, prices and distribution of hank yarn. Chief Ministers have also been advised to impress upon the District collectors to organise regular checking of the stocks and selling prices of yarn dealers in the district, with a view to prevent hoarding of yarn. Central Government on its part has issued directions to National Textile Corporation (NTC) to augment production of year of country of 40s and below where the price rise has affected the handloom weaver the most. Government of India has also reviewed the export policy of cotton yarn even though it is of vital interest for maintaining balance of payment position. National Handloom Development Corporation has been directed to step up its yarn supply operations to handloom weavers and agencies in the State. Directions have been issued to Textile Commissioner to initiate checking of yarn dealers with a view to activate dehoarding operations.

In addition to the existing ongoing schemes implemented by the Government for the development of handloom sector, the following two new schemes have also been announced recently for implementation during the current financial year in order to improve the socioeconomic conditions of the handloom weavers:-

- (i) A scheme of 'Margin Money for Destitute Weavers' which envisages sustained capital support to the cooperative societies organised by the destitute weavers.

The scale of assistance provided under this scheme is @Rs.2000/= per destitute member subject to a maximum of Rs. 1.00 lakh per society.

- (ii) The second scheme is called 'Development of Integrated Handloom Villages'. During the first year of its implementation, 24 villages spread throughout the country will be taken up for development under this scheme.

Alleged Irregularities in Advancing Loans by Nationalised banks in Mukerian, Punjab

3723. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of nationalised banks in Mukerian in Hoshiarpur district of Punjab;

(b) the details of the loans advanced to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and weaker sections for self-employment under the various schemes in and around Mukerian by these branches during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints about irregularities in sanctioning of loans;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) There are 5 branches of Public Sector banks at Mukerian in Hoshiarpur district of Punjab.

(b) District-wise data on the advances